

1. (Currently Amended) An equipment carrier arrangement, comprising:

- a movable rear vehicle component defining an upper edge and a lower edge, wherein the movable vehicle component is movable between an open position and a closed position; and

- an equipment carrier, comprising:

- a frame having lower engagement means engaged with the lower edge of the vehicle component, wherein engagement of the lower engagement means with the lower edge of the vehicle component prevents upward movement of the frame relative to the vehicle component;

- a structure connected to the frame or forming part thereof, for carrying one or more items of equipment;

- at least one support interconnected with the frame above the lower engagement means via an adjustable position engagement arrangement that enables adjustment in the vertical position of the support relative to the frame, wherein the at least one support extends from the frame toward the vehicle component;

- at least one vehicle engaging member carried by and movable with the support, wherein the vehicle engaging member is engaged with the vehicle component at a position between the lower edge and the upper edge of the vehicle component, and wherein the vehicle engaging member is movably interconnected with the support at a location spaced from the frame toward the vehicle component, wherein at least a portion of the support is located between the vehicle engaging member and the frame;

- a strap member having upper engagement means engaged with the upper edge of the vehicle component;

- strap engaging and tensioning means carried by and movable with the support, wherein said strap member is engaged with the strap engaging and tensioning means and can be controlled for tensioning the strap member in order to tighten said upper and lower engagement means onto said upper and lower edges, respectively, of the vehicle component;

- wherein the adjustable position engagement arrangement is configured and arranged to enable simultaneous adjustment in the vertical position of the

vehicle engaging member and the strap engaging and tensioning means relative to the frame in order to vary the location of the strap member and the vehicle engaging member relative to the frame; and

- wherein the equipment carrier is maintained in engagement with the movable vehicle component and is movable with the vehicle component between the open and closed positions via engagement of the lower engagement means with the lower edge of the vehicle component, engagement of the upper engagement means of the strap member with the upper edge of the vehicle component, and engagement of the vehicle engaging member with the vehicle component between the upper and lower edges.